

October 15, 2012

Erica W. Meyers
Telecommunications Access Policy Division
Wireline Competition Bureau
445 12th Street S.W.
Room 5-B432
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of: Nomination for the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors - CC
Docket Nos. 97-21 and 96-45. —Louis Wenzlow, Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative

Dear Ms. Meyers,

The National Rural Health Resource Center (The Center) and the National Rural Health Association (NRHA) would like to nominate Louis Wenzlow, Director of Health Information Technology at the Rural Wisconsin Health Cooperative, to serve as the representative for rural health care providers that are eligible to receive supported services pursuant to § 54.601.

The Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to sustaining and improving health care in rural communities. As the nation's leading technical assistance and knowledge center in rural health, The Center focuses on five core areas: performance improvement; health information technology; recruitment & retention; community health assessments; and, networking.

NRHA, a non-profit membership organization with over 20,000 members and is the only organization representing the full spectrum of rural health care interests nationwide. From small rural hospitals and clinics to individual health care practitioners to rural public health advocates, the NRHA works to bring all rural health care interests together in order to facilitate communication and education, and to create an inclusive network for rural health care advocacy at the federal level.

The Center and NRHA are nominating Mr. Wenzlow based upon his active and outstanding involvement in the development and implementation of health information technology (HIT) in over 40 rural hospitals, including assisting with issues surrounding access to broadband . Both The Center and NRHA have come to depend on Mr. Wenzlow to provide prompt, accurate, and easy-to-understand updates on the ever-changing health information technology environment as it pertains to rural health. Mr. Wenzlow has also been an active and well-respected member of the National Rural HIT Coalition and has spoken on behalf of both organizations at national conferences, workshops, and online seminars. I think you will see that Mr. Wenzlow's credentials and background would add a vital role to the Universal Service Administrative Company Board of Directors.

With the implementation of electronic health records and the usage of telemedicine applications, rural providers of care are very interested in and care about access to broadband. Mr. Wenzlow has direct, first-hand experience in accessing broadband for rural facilities as well as experience in leading, developing and implementing health care related information technology initiatives.

Please consider Mr. Wenzlow as the representative for rural health care providers for the Universal

Service Administrative Company Board of Directors. You'll find him to be thorough and very capable to add a perspective that will be greatly appreciated by the Universal Services Committee. Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to call or write for additional information.

Sincerely,

Terry Hill, Executive Director
National Rural Health Resource Center

Brock Slabach, Sr. Vice-President for Member Services
National Rural Health Association